A CALL
FROM
Death to Life,
AND
Out of the Dark wayes and Worſhips of the World where the Seed is held in Bondage under the Merchants of *Babylon*, Written by *Marmaduke Stephenſon*;

Who (together with another dear Servant of the Lord called *William Robinſon*) hath (ſince the Writing hereof) ſuffered Death, for bearing Witneſſe to the ſame Truth, amongſt the Profeſſors of *Boſtons* Juriſdiction in *New England*.

With a True Copy of Two Letters, which they Writ to the Lords People a little before their Death.

And alſo the True Copy of a Letter as it came to our hands, from a Friend in *New England*, which gives a brief Relation of the manner of their Martyrdom, with ſome of the Words which they expreſt at the time of their ſuffering.

John 16. 2, 3.

They ſhall put you out of their Aſſemblies, yea the time cometh, that whoſoever killeth you, will think that he doth God ſervice; And theſe things will they do unto you, becauſe they have not known the Father nor Me, ſaith Chriſt.

London, Printed for *Thomas Simmons*, at the Sign of the Bull and Mouth near *Alderſgate*. 1660.

To the READER.

But especially to you that are Professors (one in Doctrine and discipline with the professors in New England) do we write these things, that the witnesse of God may arise in you, to judge between the Lords people called Quakers, and your Brethren the Professors in New England, whether they have not forgotten God and his goodnesse towards them, and lost their first love which was stirring in them when they were little amongst the Families of the Earth, and whether they are not Children of the Whorish woman, that is called the Mother of Harlots, that hath sitten upon many waters, and deceived the Nations with the wine of the Wrath of her fornication (which she offers in her golden Cup) till the Earth is corrupted with violence, and she made drunk with the Blood of the Saints; Seeing they are so far Adulterated from God and Christ as that in their skirts is also found the Blood of the Saints & Martyrs of Jesus. Oh! how are they fallen that once seemed so tender in Conscience, as that they would rather leave their native Countrey, then practice things contrary to their Conscience, and who would have believed that they which once fled for fear of sufferings; would have caused others to suffer under their own hands, which are now become wicked hands; For they have taken two of Gods dear Servants, and hanged them on a Tree for no matter of Fact committed by them against any Law which is Just, but because they were found by their words and actions to be Quakers, and did (contrary to the sentence of banishment, which upon pain of death, the Court passed upon them, * return into their Jurisdiction as they were required of God to bear witnesse unto the Truth, in which there is power to set free, and for the Testimony thereof, and that they might hold forth the good will of God in love to their Enemies, and that they might

Here followeth a Copy of the Warrant to the Keeper of the Prison.

* You are by vertue hereof, forthwith required to discharge the Prison of *William Robinson*, *Marmaduke Stevenson*, *Mary Dyer*, and *Nicholas Davis*, who were found by the Court and Jury, by their own Confessions, Words, and Actions, to be Quakers, and had sentence pronounced against them, to depart this Jurisdiction on pain of Death, and that if after the 14th. of this Instant *September*, they or any of them be found within this Jurisdiction, or any part thereof, at their peril.

Dated at *Boston*, the 12th: of *September*, 59 by *Edward Rawson* Secretary.

might be clear from the blood of all men, in giving them warning to repent, and walk in the Light of the Lord, their lives were not dear to them, they being nothing terrified by their adversaries, which to them is an evident token of perdition, but to the patient sufferers, of Salvation and that of God, with whom they have now a reward in the world to come life; So that in them is fulfilled the words of Christ, he that will loose his life for my Sake, shall find it, But we do clearly see in the Light of the Lord, that he that seeks to save his own life will kill the Just, and therefore we marvel not at what the professors in New England *(that seek to save themselves) have done;*

Knowing that they which are born after the flesh, will persecute him that is born after the Spirit, but we do even pity to see such as do professe Scriptures have their eyes so shut, and their hearts so grosse, as to think they do God good service when they not onely cast out of their Synagogues, but out of their Countrey, and do Imprison, Scourge, cut off Ears, and kill those that come to them in the Name and fear of the Lord, and do tremble at Gods Word, working out their Salvation with Feare and Trembling; and here we do appeal to the witnesse of God in you all Professors and People, whether the Professors in New England, *have not acted quite contrary to God, in Imprisoning, Scourging, Banishing and Killing those that tremble at his Word, seeing God hath said to this man will I look, that is of a broken and contrite heart, and trembleth at my Word, but to such the Professing Rulers in* New England *will not look, neither suffer them to have a being amongst them; And again we, say, let the witnesse of God in you judge, whether they have not acted directly contrary to Christ in destroying mens lives, seeing he comes not destroy mens lives but to save mens lives, and whether they be not quite out of his Doctrine and Royal Law, which saith, what ever ye would that men should do unto you, do you even so unto them; And we do likewise appeale unto the witnesse of God in all sober people, whether the Pastours and Teachers of the People in* New England *(that stir up and encourage their flocks to persecute to death Gods Servants) be not become brutish, and contrary to the Ministers of Christ and their flocks, contrary to the* Primitive *Christians, seeing the Ministers of Christ were gentle towards all men, and did not strive nor warr with Carnal Weapons, but did meekly instruct them that did oppose themselves, that with sound Doctrine they might convince their Adversaries, and they both loved and taught the believers that followed them, to love their Enemies, and not kill them, as they have killed those that they account their Enemies, for which they have no cause, unlesse it be for speaking the Truth; And again, whether these Teachers and Professors, and all that justifie their proceedings against the Lords Servants, be not of that Generation that killed the Prophets, and shamefully entreated those that were sent unto them, which called the Master of the house* Beelzebub, *and killed the Prince of Life; seeing they do the same things*

to them of his Houſhold. And Reader,

That it may appear that theſe two (which the Profeſſors of NewEngland have taken, and by wicked hands put to death) were the Servants of Chriſt Jeſus, and of the Houſhold of God, we do here preſent to thy view theſe things following, which were writ by their own hands, and ſent unto us not long before their death; Together with a Letter which was Writ from Plymouth in New England by Peter Pearſon, relating the manner of their death, with ſome of their words which they did expreſſe a little before their Martyrdom, all which we deſire may be ſeriouſly weighed and laid to heart, that the witneſſe of God may riſe in Judgement againſt the ſpirit of perſecution in whomſoever it appears, to which ſpirit we exhort all men (that love their Soules) to beware of joyning; and ſo in love to all People we reſt by Faith, chuſing rather to ſuffer affliction with the People of God, than to enjoy the pleaſure of ſin for a Seaſon.

Written in York-ſhire,
the 23*d*. day of
the 3*d*. Month.
1660.

John Whitehead.
Marmaduke Storre.
William Padley.
Gregory Milner.
Thomas Leemin.

A Call from Death to Life, and out of the dark wayes and worships of the World, where the Seed is held in bondage under the Merchants of Babylon. *M. S.*

OH you my dear Neighbours and People in the Town of *Shipton* and *Wighton* and elsewhere, where this may come, who have been spending long your mony for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which doth not satisfie, as I have done; Oh come buy wine and milk without mony and without price, while it is held forth to you, least the day come that you be deprived of it; for long hath the Spirit of the Lord been striving with you (as it did with me) but you have resisted it time after time, because it testified against you when you went on in sin, and reproved in secret for the evil of your doings; therefore you do not regard it, but flies from it. So in bowels of tender love to you all do I speak, and in love and pity to your souls, prize the love of God, and his tender mercy and forbearance to you, that he did not cut you off in the height of your iniquity, but hath spared you until this day, though you have long taken pleasure in sin, not regarding God that made you, yet hath his Spirit been striving with you many dayes & years, (as it did with me) and hath reproved you time after time, for the evil of your doings, but you regarded it not, though it often called upon you in love & meekness to depart from your iniquity, and that which you have been addicted to; it hath reproved and called you that have been addicted to drunkenness, lying and swearing to depart from these things, for they are evil, and it hath called upon you that are proud and covetous to depart from them, and hath reproved you that have been wild and wanton, and given to sports and pleasures, to depart from them, and run on no longer in vanity, but you did not regard it, but took pleasure in sin. Oh consider dear Neighbors and People, what you have been doing ever since you came to years of maturity, and let the witnesse of God which is faithful and true in you all arise and answer, to which I speak, and it will let you see that you have provoked the Lord,

and vexed his righteous ſoul from day to day, and have preſſed him with your ſins and iniquities, as a cart is preſſed with ſheaves, yet hath he born it with patience and hath ſuffered long, not willing that you ſhould periſh and dye in your ſins, but ſtill he hath waited year after year upon you to be gracious to you, but you have refuſed to return, and hearken to his Call and Counſel, but have run on in the broad way, as your Forefathers have done ſo do ye, and follow their Cuſtoms and Traditions which are vain, and will not profit you at all in the day of the Lord, when he comes to call you to an account how you have ſpent your time; ſo conſider and lay it to heart, before the evil day come upon you, leaſt the Spirit of the Lord ceaſe ſtriving with you, for verily the day is coming on apace that the Spirit of the Lord will ceaſe ſtriving with man, who puts the Day of God far from him, then it will be ſaid, *He that is Righteous let him be Righteous ſtill, and he that is filthy, let him be filthy ſtill.* So dear Friends and People young and old, prize your time while you have it, and do not ſlight the Counſel of the Lord any longer, leaſt the day of your viſitation paſſe over your heads at unawares which cannot be called again, and as I ſaid before, Spend your mony no longer for that which is not bread, in following Diviners of lyes, for they cauſe you to erre and go aſtray by their lyes and by their lightneſſe, like ſheep without a ſhepherd, for they are blind Watchmen which leads you out of the way, like troops of Robbers to devour you, *Hoſ. ch. 6. v. 9* and makes merchandize of your ſouls, as they did upon me and thouſands beſides, which the Lord hath delivered as birds out of the Fowlers net; ſo being eſcaped from them, we ſee their deceit and ſubtle hypocriſie which long hath lodged in them, and therefore we cannot but declare againſt them, becauſe they are ſeen to be ſuch as devour widows houſes for diſhoneſt gain, and makes a prey upon you as they have done upon us, for they ſeek their gain from their quarter, and feeds themſelves with the fat, and clothes themſelves with the beſt of the wooll, as the falſe prophets did of old, which the true Prophets declared againſt; and with the ſame light that the true Prophets ſaw the falſe prophets of old, do we ſee theſe Prieſts in this generation, for their fruits makes them manifeſt what trees they are; For they ſue men at the Law for Tithes, and take them by force, falſe Prophet like, and who cannot

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put into their mouths for conſcience ſake, they prepare War againſt them, and with cruelty & oppreſſion cauſe their goods to be taken from them to ſatisfie their wils and greedy deſires; ſo they make themſelves manifeſt to be of that generation, and to walk in their ſteps that the true Prophet ſpake of, who were greedy dumb doggs that can never have enough, as thouſands do witneſſe at this day, and you may ſee it to be ſo with the Prieſts of this generation, for in *Balaams* ſteps they are walking, who loved the wages of unrighteouſneſſe, as they do in this generation, but they exceed him in cruelty; for though he loved it, he did not ſue for it, but theſe Prieſts do in this generation, of which I am a witneſſe, and thouſands beſides, who have ſuffered by them, to the ſpoiling of their goods and eſtates; Oh it is ſeen, it is ſeen in this our day that the filthy and abominable thing is committed in the land, as it was of old, the Prophets prophecy falſely, and the Prieſts bear Rule by their means, and the people love to have it ſo, but what will you do in the end thereof ſaith the Lord Almighty, for they have dawbed you up with untempered morter, and are Phyſicians of no value to you, for they have long been ſowing pillows under your arm-holes, and have ſpoken ſmooth things to you, in healing that in you which is for deſtruction, and ſeeks to kill that which ſhould live, that ſo they might rule over you as Kings in the Earth, and you to worſhip the Beaſt and his Image, who is making war with the Lamb, but the day of their downfal is at hand, and the Lamb ſhall have the victory, and Rule and Reign in his People for ever and ever, for now he is ariſen in the Power of his Spirit, with great Dominion and Authority, to ſlay the wicked and cut down his enemies that reſiſt him in his way; And they that will not have him to Reign over them, muſt fall before him who is our Head, who will render vengeance in flames of fire upon all his enemies. So dear People be awakened, and ſtand up to Judgement, and live no longer in careleſneſſe and Carnal ſecurity, but own the Light of Chriſt to be your guide, for a meaſure of it is given to every one of you to profit withall, and it is nigh you in your hearts and in your mouths, the word of Faith which is able to ſave your Souls; ſo all to it take heed that by it you may be quickened and reviv'd again out of your fallen eſtate wherein you lie by reaſon of your tranſgreſſions,

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which have made a ſeparation between you and your Maker, and verily I ſay unto you, except ye be regenerate and born again, you cannot enter into the Kingdom of God; So dear People young and Old, I ſpeak to you all as one, conſider how you have ſpent your time, and let a true ſearch paſſe through you all, that you may ſee whom you have been ſerving all your time, for Servants you are to whom you do obey; So dear People be not deceived, for God will not be mocked, ſuch as you ſow, ſuch you muſt reap from the hand of the Lord, and receive according to your deeds whether they be good or evil, who will give a reward to every man according as his works ſhall be, for he is a God that will not wink at wickedneſs nor let the tranſgreſſor go unpuniſhed, to whom every knee ſhall bow and every tongue confeſſe him *Lord*, who created Heaven and Earth, whom we ſerve and Worſhip, who is our Lord and King, and Captain of our Salvation, Our Leader and Guider, and our Preſerver night and day, our Mighty and Strong One, the Mighty God of *Iſrael* is his Name, the wonderful Counſellor and Prince of our Peace, whoſe preſence is with us to the confounding of our Enemies that riſe up in oppoſition againſt us, for he goes before us who is our *Life* to tread down our Enemies under his feet, who is terrible to the wicked, and all that forgets him muſt be turned into Hell, where the worm dies not, and the fire never goes out, the ſwearer and the lyar muſt go thither, that is their portion, the Drunkard and the Whore-monger muſt go thither, the proud and Covetous cannot eſcape the damnation of Hell, and all they that lives *Dives* like muſt pertake of *Dives* torment which is coming upon them, from which they cannot eſcape nor flie from, and all ſuch muſt go into the lake with the Beaſt and the falſe Prophet which have long born rule by their means in England, and in the Nations abroad, for they have devoured my Flock, and the Sheep of my paſture, ſaith the *Lord* Almighty, who will be avenged on them, for the wounded they have not healed, nor comforted thoſe who were ſick, neither have they brought back again that which was driven away, but with force and cruelty have they ruled, but the *Lord* God is now come in his Mighty Power, to take their power from them, and deliver his People out of their hands, which have long been made a prey upon by them, and reward them double

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for their doings; So you my dear neighbours, do not uphold them any longer in their sin, in satisfying their greedy desires, least you partake with them of their plagues, and of the wrath of God that is coming upon them, from which they cannot escape, for they have grieved the Spirit of the Lord from day to day, to see what havock they have made in the Nation of *England*, by spoyling and causing spoyl to be made of Peoples Goods and Estates, Oh! their sin is great and grievous to be born, and the cry of their oppression and their iniquity is entered into the eares of the Lord, that he is even grieved and sore vexed at them, for they have trampled upon his witnesse in them, and have pressed him with their sin as a Cart is pressed with sheaves, so that he can bear no longer with them, because their iniquity doth abound. Oh! search the Scriptures and see if they do not go beyond and exceed the false Prophets of old in deceit and subtile hypocrisie; Oh! they might even blush for shame, to consider what they have done and caused to be done, which will fall sad and heavy upon them when the Lord calls them to an account, and requires his flock at their hands; then shall they roar and weep bitterly, and wish they had never been Born, when Calamity & Anguish of Spirit overtakes them, which they will certainly meet withal, for the Lord hath spoken it who will perform his promise, that the Beast and the false Prophet shall go into the Lake together, and for ever be tormented with the Devil and his angels, for thither must they go, and all that joyns with them must partake of their punishment; So dear Friends and People take heed what you do in joyning with such who leads you to destruction, for in the broad way they are walking themselves and leads you after them into the Pit of Perdition, where they must remain for ever, for they will not enter into the Kingdom themselves, nor suffer you if they can hinder; And will not the Lord arise for the Redemption of his Seed? Yea surely, he is arisen already, to shake the Nations that resist him, and hath given the Power to his Son, which shall rule the Nations with a Rod of Iron, and they that will not bow to his Government must be destroyed and broken to pieces, the mouth of the Lord of Hosts hath spoken it.

So dear Friends, and People young and old, mind well what is written, and ponder it in your hearts, for in love to you all

do I ſpeak, the Lord is my witneſſe, that this is not written in any prejudice of mind to any mans perſon, neither in prejudice or envy againſt the Prieſts or the falſe prophets, but againſt their evil actions which we ſee in them, which we loath and deteſt; for never did the true Prophets of the Lord ſeek their gain from their Quarter, as theſe Prieſts now do in this generation, nor ever did they ſue men at law for Tithes, as theſe Prieſts do now, neither did they the Lord ſent forth to declare his mind and will make bargains with people for ſo much a year, or abide in one Town for many years together, as theſe Prieſts do now, nay they went from one place to another, from City to City, and from Country to Country, in obedience to the Command of the Lord, as *Jeremiah* and the reſt of the true Miniſters did, to whom the Word of the Lord came, ſaying, *I have ordained thee a Prophet unto the Nations*, Mark, not to a Town or a City, to remain in for many years together, but to the Nations, and in obedience to the living God, he teſtified againſt the World that their deeds were evil, but they could not bear his words, but ſaid he was worthy to die, and ſo the Prieſts and falſe Prophets joyned with the Princes and Rulers of the people, and caſt him into priſon and into the dungeon, where he did ſink amongſt the mire that was in it, Read in his propheſie and you will find it ſo, and this was that which the true Prophets and Miniſters of Chriſt received from the World where they went, ſtocking, whipping and Impriſonments; thus were they requited evil for good in all Ages, for their love which they did bear to the ſouls of the Sons of men, and the ſame muſt we expect from this generation wherein we live, we whom the Lord hath called to place his Name in, and hath ſent us forth in this day of his love, to preach his Everlaſting Goſpel to them which dwell upon the earth, in love and pity to their ſouls, but they regard it not, though we go thouſands of miles for the Seeds ſake which lies in death, yet the reward of our labour from them is priſons, and whips to ſcourge us withal, and knives prepared to cut off ears, and Irons hot to burn in the hand; thus are we requited evil for good, for teſtifying againſt the World that their deeds are evil, and therefore do they hate us as they did Chriſt and his Apoſtles, and calls us Deceivers, Fools and Hereticks, Jeſuites and the like, becauſe we ſpeak the truth to them, and cannot

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joyn with them in their abominations, but ſtands as witneſſes for the Lord God againſt them; therefore do the Prieſts and Rulers joyn hand in hand together againſt us, as they did againſt the true Prophets, Chriſt and his Apoſtles, as you may read in the Scriptures of Truth, which bear Teſtimony to theſe things. So dear Neighbours and People where this may come, conſider my end in writing this unto you, the Lord is my witneſſe, that this is not written as to ſet up our ſelves and pull down others, but it is written for your ſakes that you might come ſo ſee the deceit of your own hearts, which hath long lodged in you, and alſo the deceit of the Prieſts in this generation, that ſeek their gain from their quarter, and keeps you captive in *Babylon* and *Ægypt*, where our Lord is crucified, as they did many of us in time paſt, where we were bewitched by their ſorceries and their ſmooth words, in ſpeaking peace to us w en our ſoules lay in death, unconverted in our fallen eſtates, as they are at this day, ſo they could not help us out of it, being in it themſelves; Thus were we led by them in blindneſſe for many years together, ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth by them; if the Lord had not looked upon us with an eye of pity, we had ſurely periſhed under their Teaching, becauſe they are out of the Doctrine of Chriſt and his Apoſtles, who was ſent to open blinde eyes, and turn People from darkneſſe to the light of Chriſt in them, and from the Power of Satan to God; but theſe Prieſts labour in this generation to keep people in darkneſſe, in blindneſſe, and in ignorance, in Death, in their unconverted eſtate, that ſo they might not ſee their deceit as we do; the Lord open your eyes that you may ſee how you have been led aſtray out of the true way which leads unto Eternal Life; Oh! my love in tenderneſſe runs out to you all, my dear neighbours and acquaintance, in Bowels of compaſſion and pity to your Souls, which lies in Death as mine hath done, but the Lord in his Eternal love and pity to my Soul, hath redeemed me from my fallen eſtate, and raiſed my Soul from Death to Life, and out of the Pit wherein it lay dead in treſpaſſes and ſins, and ſeeing the Lord hath done this for me, I cannot but declare it to the Sons of men, and praiſe his Name in the Land of the living, who hath done great things for me, and when I conſider and ponder it in my heart, my Soul is raviſhed with his

love, and broken into teares to conſider his kindneſſe toward me, who was by Nature a Child of wrath as well as others, Oh! the conſideration of his love hath conſtrained me to follow him, and to give up all for his ſake, if it be for the laying down of my life; for none are the Diſciples of Chriſt, but they that follow him in the Croſſe, and through ſufferings, and they that love any thing more then Him, are not worthy of Him; Now minde well and conſider what I ſay, the true unfeigned love to God doth not break the love from one another, but it breakes the bands of wickedneſſe, as Strife, Debate, Anger, and Envie, that have lodged in the mind one againſt another, and when theſe things are deſtroyed in men and women, then comes the love of God to abound in them and encreaſe one to another, and this I witneſſe, and the Lord beareth me teſtimony to what I ſpeak, that my love is dearer and nearer to thoſe in relation to me than ever it was before, and I know ſome of them feels it ſo, yea the Lord knows my heart whom I ſerve, that I lie not, but ſpeak the truth to you all, that ſo you might not ſtumble, nor have any prejudice in your mindes againſt me without a cauſe, who am a lover of all your Soules, and for that cauſe is this written to you, that you may know it is ſo, for the Lord knows I do not forget you, though I be thouſands of miles from you, becauſe of the ſimplicity that was in ſome of you who were my neighbours and acquaintance, for I am one who have obtained mercy from the Lord, through judgement and great tribulation, which all muſt paſſe through before they come into the Land of *Canaan*, they muſt be regenerate and born again, and know a dying to ſin, and that which they have delighted in before they witneſſe a living to Righteouſneſſe, the Old man muſt be put off with his deeds before the new man be put on, Chriſt Jeſus the Son of the living God, who is the expreſſe Image of his Fathers Glory, who is taking his People to himſelf out of the power of the Beaſt and falſe Prophets, who have long made a prey upon them, but the day is come that they ſhall make no longer a prey upon them, for the Lord hath ſaid it that he will teach his People himſelf, and under his Government ſhall they dwell ſafely from the devourer and venemous beaſts, which hath long had his ſeat in the Earth amongſt the Sons of men, and by him they have been led Captive at his will, to do his work and ſervice, for it was pleaſing to them, thus hath the Devils work been done

done for a long time together, and the Lords work neglected which should have been done; Thus have men and women been growing as trees of unrighteousnesse, bringing forth fruit to the unrighteous one, the prince of darkneſſe which hath long reigned, and had possession in the heart of man; So all dear people consider well of your conditions, that you may see what Trees you are and to whom you bring forth fruit; and this concerns you all to know, from the least of you to the greatest, for the Lord is no respecter of persons, but in every Nation he that feareth God and worketh Righteousnesse is accepted of him, who is our hiding Place, and Rock of sure defence for us to flie unto, where we are kept safe in the hollow of his hand So dear neighbours and People consider, that you have long been labouring for the meat that must perish & come to an end, now it stands you all in hand to seek after the living Bread and hidden Manna that comes down from above, and is given to feed the Hungry, and strengthen the feeble minded, and verily it is so, in love and plainnesse to you do I speak, that you who can live without this living Bread, your Souls lies in Death still, and the witnesse lies slain in *Sodom* and *Egypt* in you, and the Seed lies covered under the Clods of the Earth in you, and unlesse it arise and live in you, you cannot be saved nor enter into the land of Rest which is prepared for the Faithful, who are regenerate and born again of the Holy Seed, which shall inherit the blessing, the Son of God which is Heire of the Promise, and in him is our life hid with God, from the vulturous eye and venemous Beast, and from the Lord are we refreshed day by day. So dear People, let the witnesse of God arise and be awakened in you all, that the seed may come forth from under the Clods of your hard and stony hearts, that so the prisoner may be set at liberty, which long hath been oppressed, and for the sake of it in you am I constrained to write unto you, not knowing whether I may see your faces in the flesh any more yea or nay; Oh! that you would lay these things to heart, which I in love have written to you, not knowing how soon your breath may be stopt, and your life taken from you, and as Death leaves you, so must you appear before the Lord and be judged according to your doings. So dear hearts, do not sleight the day of your visitation nor the tenders of Gods love which is yet held forth to you, least you

be taken away in your ſins, and die in your iniquities, and then I know your portion will be ſad; Therefore do I warn you in Bowels of tender love, and in pity to the Captive in you, that you run no longer in your former vanities, in ſpending your time out of the fear of God, for all they that live out of the fear of God, do not feel his preſence, nor enjoy his bleſſing; So all hearken to the Counſel of God, and be attentive to his Voice, and lend your ear to his Call, while he is knocking at the door of your hearts; Oh! do not reſiſt him but let him in that he may take poſſeſſion whoſe right it is, for verily if you reſiſt him when he calls upon you, and will not lend your ears to his Counſel nor give ear to his Words, a day of trouble and perplexity of Spirit will aſſuredly come upon you, then will you call upon the Lord but he will not hear you, but will hide his face from you, even ſo will it be with you at that day, becauſe the Lord called and you would not hear him, ſo when you call upon him he wil not hear you; And this from the Lord God I declare unto you, that if you periſh your deſtruction is of your ſelves, and the Lord will be cleare of your blood in the day of your account. So dear people, let the patience and forbearance of our God towards you lead you to repentance, & now no longer go on in ſin againſt that of God in your Conſciences, but all ſtoop down to the witneſſe of God in you, that the Seed may ariſe to live in you, for the bleſſing is upon *England* for the Seeds ſake, which God hath raiſed, and it is growing, and the vertue of it is ſpreading over the Nations, and the Kingdom of Chriſt begins to flouriſh in the Earth, but this I ſay unto you, that unleſſe you feel the Seed of God to ariſe and live in you, you cannot inherit the bleſſing, for the bleſſing is to the Seed, the Plant of Gods Renown, which he hath regard unto, for it is of his Nature and Image, and proceeds from him who is meek and lowly, and eaſie to be entreated by the upright, for his ear is open to their cry, who hungers and thirſts after his preſence to refreſh their Souls; So dear people, lie no longer in Death, but come out of the Grave of Carnal ſecurity wherein you lie, that your Souls may live, then will you prize with me the love and preſence of the Lord above all things; But unleſſe that be reſtored to life in you which lies in Death, you cannot prize the love of God, for you do not feel his preſence, and this you know by experience,

that

that a dead Child is not ſenſible of want, neither doth it hunger after the breaſt, but a living Child that is born into the World is ſoon ſencible of want, and in it is a hunger raiſed after the milk which comes from the breaſt to refreſh it withal, for it cannot live without it, or ſome other food like unto it, and this is a true figure to you and all, and thorow it you may read your ſelves, and how your conditions are every one in particular, that ſo you may no longer be deceived, nor reſt in a falſe hope which will faile you, and even ſo it is with you all who never found a true hunger raiſed after the Lord and after his Preſence to refreſh your Souls; but you who can live content and reſt ſatisfied without nouriſhment from him, you are as a dead Child which feels no hunger nor want, and this is the truth to you all, the Lord revive your ſences, and quicken your underſtandings that you may be ſencible how your conditions are, which is the deſire of my Soul, that ſo you may not periſh in your gain-ſayings, and for this very end is this written to you, as I was moved of the Lord in bowels of compaſſion to you, knowing that you are where I once was in the periſhing ſtate, like the Prodigal from the Fathers Houſe, in the far Country, feeding upon the husks with the ſwine; and this was my ſtate and condition for many years, but in the time appointed the Lord looked upon me with an eye of pity, and called me home to himſelf, out of the far Country, where I was feeding on the husks with the ſwine, into the banqueting-houſe, where my ſoul is refreſhed, nouriſhed and fed with the hidden Manna and bread of *Life*, which is prepared for the hungry and feeble-minded to feed upon. So all dear people turn in your minds, and read within, I ſpeak not to the thing without, for all they that go from the Lord they go into the ſtrange land, into the far Country, and all ſuch are Adulterers that ſpends their portion upon harlots, and hides their talent in the earth, which was given them to profit withal, and all ſuch are wanderers and vagabonds which have not a habitation in the Lord, in *Cains* nature, and though they may be builders of Cities, as *Cain* was, yet being from God as he was, they are ſtrangers and wanderers, being ſeperated from the Lord, who hath prepared a reſt for his People, where they are ſafe and feeds together in the good land, where they are at home with their Maker, who fills Heaven and Earth with his preſence, glory unto

his

his Name for ever more. So all People turn home into your own tents, that you may ſee where you are, and what you are feeding upon, and wander no longer abroad with your minds in the earth, after that which will periſh and come to an end, where the moth & ruſt doth corrupt, and thieves break through and ſteal, and deprive you of your ſubſtance that you have gathered together by fraud and deceit, which may be ſoon taken from you, and you left deſolate, naked and bare; therefore it ſtands you all in hand to ſeek after that which will endure for ever, the Pearl of great price, which doth exceed all the treaſures in *Ægypt*, for its durable and will laſt for ever, the Rock of Ages on which the Saints was built, the chief Corner Stone Elect and Precious, the ſure foundation of many generations, the pillar and ground of Truth, Chriſt the light the bright and morning Star, the Sun of Righteouſneſſe which is now ariſen with healing in his wings, to cleanſe the Lepar of his leproſie, and hath cauſed the dumb to ſpeak and the deaf to hear his Voice and follow him, and this hath he done in this day of his power, which makes the Heathen to wonder and be confounded at his appearance in his Sons and Daughters, who beare his Image, who are meek and lowly, Lamb-like, the Righteous knows him who loves his appearance, but to the wicked his preſence is dreadful and terrible like a Lyon of the Tribe of *Judah*, to conſume with the Breath of his Mouth, and break to pieces like a Potters veſſel all the ſtiffe necked and ſtrong ones who lives in the pride of their hearts and at eaſe in the fleſh, like fat Bulls of *Baſhan*, ſpending the Creation upon their Luſts; Oh the day is at hand that all ſuch muſt be as chaffe before the wind, and as ſtubble before the fire which will conſume them, & leave them neither root nor branch, the Mouth of the Lord of Hoſts hath ſpoken it; therefore take heed what you do, and follow not the multitude to do evil, for they walk in the broad way which leads to deſtruction and to the Chambers of Death, where the Souls of men and women are plunged into miſery and torment, and into the Pit of perdition, where they cannot come out nor be looſed from their cruel bonds, where they are chained and fettered faſt, under the powers of darkneſſe, who is King of the bottomleſſe Pit, the old Dragon which goes about like a roaring Lyon ſeeking whom he may devour, and they that are from the watch,

they

watch, they are from the Rock and ſure Foundation, Chriſt the Light and Life of his People, and all that are from him, they are in darkneſſe and ſuch are taken in the ſnares of the Devil, who rules in the dark, for there he hath his ſeat, in the Earthly part of man which is one with him, who is the unclean ſpirit, which ſeeks to deſtroy and lay waſt the Heritage of God, that to his kingdom might be ſet up, Who is a lier & a murderer; but now is the day come that Chriſt is riſen to Reign as Lord and King in his People, & therefore doth Antichriſt rage in his members becauſe his deſtruction is at hand, and his torment is coming upon him, wherein he muſt have and receive a juſt recompence of his reward, and all that joyns with him muſt partake of his torment for what they have done againſt God and his People; And ſo dear Neighbours and People, joyn with him no longer who is the Enemie of God, leaſt you be cut off from the Face of the Earth, and deſtroyed with *Leviathan* that crooked Serpent, which muſt go into everlaſting burning there to remain for evermore, where there is weeping and gnaſhing of Teeth, and no comfort nor eaſe to be found, but howling & bitter lamentation night and day, and this will be the portion of the wicked that live wantonly upon the Earth; Oh! the day will come that they will wiſh they had their time to ſpend over again, when their miſery comes upon them, and the darts of the Almighty ſtriks them & wounds them to the heart, then will their pain be great, which cannot be expreſſed, which they muſt feel night and day; Oh! that you would lay theſe things to heart, and conſider your latter end, and this I ſpeak in love to you all whether you will hear or forbear, you ſhall one day know and be made to confeſſe what is written to you is true; Therefore take heed what you do that reſiſt and quench the motions of the Spirit of God in you, when it doth ariſe to ſhew you your conditions wherein you lie, for you that do reſiſt the Lord in his way, you do deſpite unto the Spirit of Grace; So dear people young and old, reſiſt the Lord no longer in his appearance in you, for you that do, you ſlay the witneſſe the Meſſenger of the Covenant in you, and ſo becomes guilty of blood; Therefore take heed of going on in the hardneſſe of your hearts, and in ſpeaking evil of the Truth, though *Baalam* erred from the Spirit of Truth, yet it was the ſame then that it is now, though *Judas* betrayed

it, and *Demas* forſook it, and embraced the World, yet Truth is Truth, and will ſtand for ever over the heads of all its enemies, and here comes the Scriptures to be fulfilled, for many are called but few are choſen; And this hath appeared in our Generation, that many have had a true taſte of the love of God, and of the Powers of the World to come, but they are gone from it again, and are turned aſide into the crooked path, like the Dog to his vomit, and like the Sow that was waſhed into the mire again, where they are defiled with the fleſh-pots of *Egypt*, which they luſted after; Oh! mark and behold the end of all ſuch that depart from the living God; Oh! is not the unclean ſpirit entered into them again, and become worſe then he was before, ſo none rejoyce at the hearing of thoſe that turnes from the truth, which they were once in, for verily it will not eaſe you of your miſery and torment which will come upon you if you go on in ſin, and diſpiſe the day of your viſitation; So to you all I have cleared my conſcience in the ſight of God,

Written in the Common Goal of *Boſton* in *New England*, in *America*, in the beginning of the ſeventh Moneth, 1659.

From a Friend of the Truth, and a ſuffrer for the Seeds ſake which is kept in Bondage under Pharaoh *and his* Taſk-maſters, *my Name in the fleſh is*
Marmaduke Stephenſon.

Theſe are Copies of Letters ſent from *William Robinſon* and *Marmaduke Stephenſon* (after they were Baniſhed) unto *Chriſtopher Holder* a Priſoner in *Boſton* Common Priſon.

Chriſtopher Holder,

O *My dearly beloved of my Father, my Soul and Life ſalutes thee, for thou art dear to me in the love which changeth not, but doth indure for ever, am I one with thee in the Life and Power of Truth, where we are joyned together as members of his Body who is our Head, and our preſerver night and day, where we are kept ſafe under the ſhaddow of his Wings, where we feed together in the green paſtures*

ly

ly the pleasant springs, where thou may feel me my beloved one, at the living Fountain which doth refresh the whole City of our God, where we are daily refreshed together in the banqueting House, where we do receive strength and nourishment from him who is our Life, and fills us with his living vertue day by day, which is as pretious Ointment powred forth giving a pleasant smell, and is pleasant to behold, for it hath ravished our hearts whereby we are constrained to leave all to follow it, who gathers our hearts in one, where I am joyn'd and sealed with thee in the Covenant of Life, where we shall for ever remain in the bosom of the Father, after our Testimonies are finished, then shall we lay down our heads in peace with all the Faithful, even so the Lord keep us all with flesh of his Truth, that so we may be armed with his Power and strength in the hour of Temptation, and in the day of tryal to support us and bear us upon his armes, that so he may be honored by us who alone is worthy of all Glory and Honour, to whom it doth belong now and for ever, Amen. So with my love to thee I rest, who am thy dear brother in the Truth.

Marmaduke Stephenson.

C. Holder.

Dearly beloved Brother, whom my Soul dearly loves, and my Spirit and Life doth dearly embrace in, Gods Love and Life, Power and Truth, thou may feel me with thee, in the armes of the Lord where we are kept, *who is our Strength, and the portion of our Cup for ever*; God knows how my life doth flow forth unto thee, from the *River of our God* which dayly runs through us, wherewith we are dayly refreshed and whereby our strength is daily renewed, for surely the Lord is with us and who shall be able to stand against us; Dear heart, in the sweet and pleasant Habitation of our God, in the Mansion House of my Father and thy Father, feel me with thee, for surely we have all one God to our Lord, who is our King and our Law-giver, for truly out of one Womb have we all come, and at one Fountain do we all drink, and are daily nourished, Dear heart where thou may feel me with thee in the life, where we are sealed together for evermore; Oh! my dear beloved my soul doth greatly love thee; Oh! I cannot expresse it, but thou may feel it in the Covenant of everlasting love, where we are united by the Spirit of Truth & Holinesse in the Power and Heavenly Peace of God, feel me with thee where neither

length of time nor distance of place can seperate us, nay all the powers nor strength of darkneſſe it cannot break it, in the same life and love, and Authority of God, the Lord for ever keep us, and grant that it may be with us for evermore, *Amen.* Which I know the Lord God will perform, even *so be it* saith my Soul. Dear heart, the remembrance of thee doth raviſh my soul, and by it is my heart filled with pure love and joy; Oh! the Lord God knows how greatly I long to see thy face, but dear heart I have not yet freedom in the Lord to accompliſh it, for I see some service I have to fulfil before I come to *Boſton*, if the Enemie hinder not, for truly hitherto I have seen the Hand of the Lord greatly with us,

William Robinſon.

DEar Brother, my spirit and life dearly Salutes thee, feel my love in thy own boſom how my life iſſues forth unto thee, wherein I am bound up with thee in the bowels and love of God, sealed with thee in the Eternal Covenant in the life and power of the Lord Jeſus, wherewith we are covered, and where we feel each other in the Heavenly Life and Kingdom of our Lord Jeſus Christ; dear heart feel how near I am unto thee in the quiet and peaceable Union, and Habitation of our God where we cannot forget one the other, where we are sealed together in the fear and Dominion of God; Dear heart, the Lord knowes how greatly I long and desire to see thy Face, and I know the Lord will grant it; dear heart we were and are gladly received here, and the seed hath been reached in many, and the life hath answered to us in many, we have had two fine meetings.

The 15*th.* 7*th.* Moneth. *Thy dear Brother*

1659. William Robinſon.

DEarly beloved, unto whom I am united in the Spirit of Truth, Love and Everlasting Peace, where I believe our dwelling shall be for ever in Heavenly joy, and true Peace in our Fathers Kingdom, where we rejoice together, and sweetly enjoy one anothers presence under our Fathers Banner in heavenly Paradice, where we meet each other in our Father love, in the Unity and Life of Christ Jeſus, where my dearly beloved

beloved I am with thee; dear heart thou maiſt feel me, and ſee how I am united unto thee.

W. R.

The 26th of the 7th Month, 1659.

C. H.

MY *dearly beloved, my life is often refreſhed by thee, the remembrance of thee is like the new Wine, whereby my ſpirit and ſoul is refreſhed, and like the Oyl wherewith we are annointed, even bread in time of need, and water in time of thirſt; Oh! what ſhall I ſay unto thee, I am overcome with thy life, and raviſhed with thy beauty, and thy love doth often melt in me, and I am broken with the remembrance of thee; Oh! that thou didſt but know it how full I am of the Fathers love; Oh! dear heart bear part with me of what I bear, until I ſee thy face; ſurely the Power of the Lord that is with me and upon me doth often break me in pieces and often melt me into tears, when he riſes in his ſtrength within me; Oh! I am overwhelmed with it; Oh! feel (my dear heart) how ſtrong and mighty the Lord God is with me; Oh! though thouſands of the* Philiſtins *doth compaſs me round, yet ſurely the God who is with me will work by me; for truely, I ſee them all before me as a* Potters veſſel, *which the Lord God will with his hand daſh in pieces; dear heart, I am preſent with thee in the ſpirit and heavenly life, and if the Lord permit we ſhall behold one another in the outward man to the comfort and joy of the ſpirit; my dearly beloved, on next fifth day we intend, if the Lord will, to come to* Boſton, *with ſeveral Friends with us* (which was ſo done)

Thy dear Brother in the Heavenly life, and Spirit of Truth,

W. R.

This was written by William Robinſon *to the Court of* Boſton.

ON the 8th day of the 4th Month 1659. in the after part of the day, in travelling betwixt *Newport* (on *Rhode Iſland*) and *Daniel Goulds houſe*, with my dear Brother *Chriſtopher Holder*, the Word of the Lord came expreſly to me, which did fill me immediately with life and power, and heavenly love, by which he conſtrained me and commanded me to

to paſs to the Town of *Boſton*, *my life to lay down in his Will, for the accompliſhing of his ſervice that he had there to perform at the day appointed*; to which *heavenly voice* I preſently yielded obedience, not queſtioning the Lord how he would bring the thing to paſs, being I was a Child, and obedience was demanded of me by the Lord, who filled me with living ſtrength and power from his Heavenly preſence, which at that time did mightily over-ſhadow me, and my life did ſay *Amen* to what the Lord required of me, and did commanded me to do, and willingly was I given up from that time to this day, the will of the Lord to do and perform whatever becomes of my body, for the Lord hath ſaid unto me, *My Soul ſhall reſt in Eternal Peace, and my life ſhall enter into reſt, for being obedient to the God of my life*; I being a Child, and durſt not queſtion the Lord in the leaſt, but rather willing to lay down my life, then to bring diſhonour to the Lord; and as the Lord made me willing, dealing gently and kindly with me, as a tender Father towards a faithful Child whom he dearly loves, ſo the Lord did deal with me in Miniſtring of his life unto me, which gave and gives me ſtrength to perform what the Lord hath required of me; and ſtill as I did and do ſtand in need, he miniſtred, and miniſtreth more ſtrength and vertue and heavenly power, and wiſdom, whereby I was and am made ſtrong in God, not fearing what man ſhall be ſuffered to do unto me, being filled with heavenly courage, which is, *meekneſs and innocency*, for the cauſe is the Lords that we go in, and the *Battel is the Lords*, and thus ſaith the Lord of Hoſts, the mighty and terrible God, *not by ſtrength, nor by might, nor by power of man, but by my Spirit ſaith the Lord of Hoſts I will perform what my mouth hath ſpoken, through my ſervants whom I have choſen, mine Elect, in whom my Soul delighteth.* Friends, the God of my life, and the God of the whole earth, did lay this thing upon me, for which I now ſuffer bonds *near to death*; he by his Almighty power, and Everlaſting love conſtrained me, and laid this thing upon me, and truly I could not *deny the Lord*, much leſs *reſiſt the Holy One of Iſrael:* Therefore all who are ignorant of the motion of the Lord in the *inward parts*, be not haſty in judging in this matter, before you hear the truth of the matter, leaſt you ſpeak evil of the things you know not; for of a truth the Lord God of Heaven and Earth commanded me by his *Spirit*, and ſpoke unto

me

me by his *Son, whom he hath made Heir of all things*; and in his life I live, and in it I ſhall depart this earthly Tabernacle, if unmerciful men be ſuffered to take it from me; and herein I rejoice that the Lord is with me, *the antient of dayes*, the life of the *Suffering Seed*, for which I am freely given up, and ſingly do ſtand in the Will of God, *for to me to live is Chriſt*, but to *dye is gain:* And truly I have a great deſire and will to dye herein, knowing that the Lord is with me, whatever ignorant men ſhall be able to ſay againſt me; for the witneſs of the Spirit I have received, and the preſence of the Lord and his Heavenly life doth accompany me, ſo that I can ſay in truth and from an upright heart, *Bleſſed be the Lord the God of my life, who hath counted me worthy, and called me hereunto, to bear my Teſtimony againſt ungodly and unrighteous men, who ſeek to take away the life of the righteous without a cauſe*, as the Rulers of the *Mathathuſets* bay doth intend, if the Lord ſtop them not from their intent: Oh! hear ye Rulers, and give ear and liſten all ye that have any hand herein to put the innocent to *death*; for in the Name, and Fear, and Dread of the Lord God, I here declare the cauſe of my ſtaying here amongſt you, and continuing in your juriſdiction, after there was a ſentence of *baniſhment upon death* (as you ſaid) pronounced againſt me, without a juſt cauſe, as you all well know, that we who were baniſhed committed nothing worthy of baniſhment, nor of any puniſhment, much leſs baniſhment *upon death*: And now ye Rulers, you do intend to put me to death with my companion, unto whom the Word of the Lord God came unto him ſaying, *Go to Boſton with thy Brother William Robinſon*; unto which Command he was obedient, who had ſaid unto him, *He had a great work for him to do*; which thing is now ſeen, and the Lord is now a doing of it, and it is in obedience to the Lord the God of the whole earth that we continued amongſt you, and that we came to the Town of *Boſton* again in obedience to the Lord the Creator of Heaven and Earth, in whoſe hand your breath is; And will you put us to *death* for obeying the Lord the God of the whole earth? Well, if you do this act, and put us to death; know this, and be it known unto you all ye Rulers and People of this Juriſdiction, that whoſoever hath a hand herein will be guilty of *innocent blood*, and not onely upon your ſelves will ye bring innocent blood, but upon this Town and the Inhabitants thereof, and

every

every where within your Juriſdiction, that had the leaſt hand therein; therefore be inſtructed ye Rulers of this land, and take warning betimes, and learn wiſdom before it be hid from your eyes.

Written in the common Goal the 19th of the 8th month, 1659. in *Boſton.*

Written by one who feareth the Lord, who is by ignorant people called a Quaker, *and unto ſuch am only known by the name* William Robinſon, *yet a new name I have received, which ſuch knows not.*

A Relation from the two innocent Servants of the Lord, concerning the (bloody) Sentence of death paſſed on them by *John Indicott* in the Court of *Boſton.*

ON *the* 20*th day of the* 8*th Month*, 1659. *I with my beloved companion,* Marmaduke Stevenſon, *and* Mary Dyer *of* Rhode Iſland *was had into the Court, where* John Indicott *with others of his Councel were aſſembled, and ſoon after we were come to the Bar before them,* John Indicott *called to the Keeper of the Priſon to pu'l off our* Hats, *which was done accordingly; then did* John Indicott *begin to ſpeak unto us as a man out of the duſt, whoſe life is departing from him, ſo faintly did he utter his words unto us, to this effect,* That they had made ſeveral Laws, and tryed and endeavoured by ſeveral wayes to keep us from among them, and neither whipping, nor impriſoning, nor cutting off ears, nor baniſhing upon pain of death, would not keep us from amongſt them; *and he ſaid alſo,* He or they deſired not the death of any of us; *yet notwithſtanding his following words were,* Give ear & hearken now to your Sentence of Death, *ſaid* John Indicott *their Governour.; ſo after theſe words were ſpoken by him he ſtopt, the words being uttered very faintly out of his mouth; then I did make way to ſpeak to* John Indicott *and the reſt of the Court, which was as I remember to this effect, I deſired I might read a Paper to them and the people there preſent (which was many) which was a Declaration of my Call, wherein was declared the Reaſons and Cauſes of my ſtaying in their Juriſdiction with my Companion, after baniſhment upon death, which had been pronounced againſt us, and two more friends*

(*the*

(the one of which is a ſufferer now with us) on the 8th day of the 7th month laſt; at which words ſpeaking, John Indicott *their Governour in a furious manner (for rage and madneſs like* Nebuchadnezzar *was got up in him) ſaid,* I ſhould not read it, neither would they hear it read; *which thing onely at that time I deſired before the ſentence of* death *was pronounced againſt us, yet he would not grant it; ſo I ſeeing, and being ſenſible of their hardneſs of heart that they are given up to work wickedneſs, and commit murder in labouring to take the lives of the innocent from the earth, I ſaid unto them, ſeeing that I could not be ſuffered to read it in the hearing of the people, nor ſuffered to have it read unto the people that then was preſent, I ſaid,* I ſhould leave the Paper with them, *which I did ſoon caſt upon the Table amongſt them, and the Secretary or ſome other handed it to the Governour, who read it himſelf, but would not let it be read in the hearing of the people, and when he had looked a certain time on it, he called me by my name and ſaid,* I needed not have made ſuch ado, or deſired to have it read; *for he ſaid,* I had ſpoke more then that unto them the day before concerning it; *which I had not, for there is many words in the Paper which I did not then utter unto them; ſo that I deſired the thing again, that all that was there preſent might hear it, but he would not ſuffer it; but ſoon after in envy called me by my name, and ſaid unto me,* Hearken unto your Sentence of death, *which he uttered forth to this effect (in which time I was ſilent) he ſaid* William Robinſon This is your Sentence, you ſhall be had back from the place from whence you came, and from thence to the place of Execution, to be hanged on the Gallows, till you are dead; *this was the Sentence of* death John Indicott *their Governour pronounced againſt me, and ſoon after called to the Goaler to have me away, which he did accordingly.*

WILLIAM ROBINSON.

SOon after my dear Brother W. R. *was taken away out of the Court, the Governour being partial, ſpoke unto me, ſaying,* If you have any thing to ſay, you may ſpeak; *but* I was *ſilent, and gave him no anſwer then, ſo that when he ſaw that I would not ſpeak, when he required of me, then he pronounced the Sentence of* death *againſt me, as he had upon my Brother before,* You ſhall be had to the place from whence you came, and from thence to the Gallows, and there to be hanged, until you be dead; *then did theſe words following run through me,* Give ear ye Magiſtrates, and all who are guilty, for this the Lord hath ſaid concerning you, who will perform his promiſe upon you, that the ſame day that you put his Servants to death, ſhall the day of your viſitation paſs over your heads, and

you ſhall be curſed for evermore, the mouth of the Lord of Hoſts hath ſpoken it; therefore in love to you all take warning before it be too late, that ſo the curſe might be removed, for aſſuredly if you put us to death, you will bring innocent blood upon your own heads, and ſwift diſtruction will come upon you: *So after theſe words were ſpoken unto them, I was had to Priſon again, where my Brother was.*

MARMADUKE STEVENSON.

THE *like Sentence* did John Indicott *their Governour pronounce againſt* Mary Dyer, *after* M.S. *was had away*; Mary Dyer you ſhall go to the place from whence you came, namely the Priſon, and from thence to the place of Execution, and be hanged there, till you are dead; *I ſaid, the Will of the Lord be done*; take her away Marſhal; *I ſaid yea, and joyfully I go; and in the way to the Priſon often uſed ſuch ſpeeches with praiſes to the Lord for the ſame; I ſaid to the Marſhal, let me alone, for I ſhould go to Priſon without him*; I believe you Mrs. Dyer, *ſaid he*, but I muſt do what I am commanded.

MARY DYER.

This is a Copy of M. S. Letter to the Lords People.

OH! my dear and well-beloved ones, who are ſealed with me in the holy Covenant of our Fathers love, my love and life runs out to you all who are choſen of God and faithful, for you are dear unto me, the Lord knows it, and are as ſeals upon my breaſt, you lambs of my Fathers Fold, and ſheep of his Paſture, the remembrance of you is pretious to me my dearly beloved ones, who are of the Holy Seed and bears the right Image, which ſprings from the true vine and off-ſpring of David, *and ſtock of* Abraham *the Father of the faithful, and the redeemed ones who are reconciled to God and one to another, in that which Sea and Land cannot ſeparate, where you may feel me knit and joined to you with the Spirit of Truth, and linked to you as members of his body, who is our Head and Rock of ſure defence for us to flye unto, where we are kept ſafe in the hour of temptation, and in the day of Tryal ſhall we be preſerved in the hollow of his hand, where his Banner of love will be over us, to compaſs us about, where we ſhall have recourſe to the living ſprings which comes from the pure fountain and well-ſpring of life, which iſſues forth abundantly, to refreſh the hungry and ſtrengthen the feeble minded, where you may feel me my beloved ones in the green paſtures, among the lillies of the pleaſant ſprings, where our*

our Souls are bathed and refreſhed together with the overcomings of Gods love, & the vertue of his preſence, which is as pretious oyntment poured forth, giving a pleaſant ſmell: So my dear Friends, let us alwayes wait at the Altar of the Lord, to ſee the Table ſpread, that ſo we may ſit down and eat together and be refreſhed with the hidden Manna and living food of life, which comes from him who is our life, our peace, our ſtrength, and our preſerver night and day; Oh! my beloved ones, let us all go on in his ſtrength, who is our Prince and Saviour, that his Image we may bear who is meek and lowly in heart, and minde the true and ſure foundation of many generations, the chief Corner-ſtone, elect and pretious, the Rock of Ages on which the Saints were built, and if we all abide thereon we ſhall never be moved, but ſtand for ever as trees of Righteouſneſs rooted and grounded in him, who will be with us in all our Tryals and temptations which we may meet withal, and here will the Lord our God be honoured by us all that are faithful unto death, we ſhall aſſuredly have a Crown of life which will never be taken from us; Oh! my beloved ones, what ſhall I ſay unto you, who drinks with me at the living Fountain, where we are nouriſhed and brought up as twines in the womb, at the breaſts of conſolation, where I do embrace you in the bond of peace which never will be broken; Oh! feel me and read me in your hearts, for I am filled with love when I think upon you, and broken into tears for the remembrance of you who are faithful doth refreſh my Soul, which makes me often to think upon you and have you in remembrance, you Jewels of my Father, and firſt fruits of his encreaſe, if I forget you, then let the Lord forget me, nay verily you cannot be forgotten by me, ſo long as I abide in the vine I am a branch of the ſame nature with you which ſprings from the good Tree which the Lord hath bleſſed, where we do grow together in his life and Image as members of his body, where we ſhall live to all eternity, and ſit down in the Kingdom of reſt and peace with Abraham, Iſaac and Jacob, to ſing the ſongs of deliverance to the moſt high that ſits on the Throne, who alone is worthy of all honour and living praiſes, to whom it is due, now and for ever, Amen. And this will be the portion of our Cup, if we all ſtand ſtedfaſt to that we have received, and be faithful in our meaſures, in doing the Will of God we ſhall find peace and unity with the Lord, which is joy unſpeakable and glorious, which will never be taken from us; So dear hearts, let us all preſs forward to the mark of the High Calling, ſo ſhall we obtain the Crown from him, where our lives are hid with Chriſt in God, where we ſhall remain for ever with him after our Teſtimony is finiſhed, we ſhall lay down our heads with joy and peace, and receive the reward of everlaſting life, which is laid up for us in Chriſt Jeſus; Oh! my beloved ones, who are of the Royal Seed which the Lord hath bleſſed, my life is bound

bound up with you in the Holy Covenant, where we are linked together as in a Chain, and moulded into one mould, where nothing must remain that is not good, for it must be purged out that would defile, that so so we may appear like the fine Gold which is tryed in the fire, to shine forth in the Image of the Father as lights to the world, and as Cities set on a Hill which cannot be hid, so will the Lord have praise to whom it is due, by our upright walking and honest conversation, so shall we all be a sweet smell and a good savour in them that are saved and in them that perish; Oh! my dear Friends and Brethren, how doth my love abound towards you, Oh! feel it and let it fill your hearts, for verily you are dear to me, the Lord knows it whom I serve that you are often in my remembrance, though my body be far beyond the Seas separated from you, yet doth my Soul and life remain with you in the Holy Covenant sealed by the Spirit of Promise, where we shall remain together in rest and sweet peace for evermore after our Testimony is finished: So all you who are upright in heart, feel my love and receive my Salutation which springs from the Fountain of love, where I am with you as by the waters of Shilo which runs softly, where we are watered and refreshed together day by day, that so we grow as Plants of Righteousness in the true vine where we are reconciled to the Father, and one to another in that which Sea and Land cannot separate, where you may all feel me and read me in your hearts, with that which was before words were, and if I never see your faces more in the flesh, the will of the Lord be done, for verily my life is not dear to me, to lay it down for his sake who hath called me out of darkness into his marvellous light, and hath counted me worthy to bear witness of his truth amongst a blood-thirsty people, whose hearts are removed far from the Lord, that so I may finish my Testimony with joy, as the rest of my Brethren have done which are gone before me, for I am freely given up with my dear Brother called William Robinson, whose love is dear to you all, to lay down our lives as a witness against this people; for us to live is Christ, but to dye is gain, for we know that our reward is sure, where we shall enjoy the pure presence of the living God, and be in favour with him for evermore; Oh! how doth my love abound and run out in tenderness to you all, Oh! my tongue cannot express it, nor my mouth utter it forth as it flowes out to you from the living streams which waters the whole City of God, Oh! feel it and be refreshed.

M. S.

This is a Copy of *W.R.* his Letter to the Lords People.

THe streames of my Fathers love runs daily through me from the Holy Fountain of Life, to the Seed throughout the whole Creation; I am

overcome

overcome with love, for it is my life and length of my dayes, its my glory and my daily ſtrength, I am ſwallowed up with love, in love I live, & with it I am overcome, and in it I dwell with the Holy Seed, to which the bleſſing of love is given from God who is love, who hath ſhed it abroad in my heart which daily fills me with living joy from the Life from whence it comes; You Children of the living God, feel me when you are waiting in it, when your hearts and minds are gathered into it, when in the ſtrength of it you are traveling feel me, when it runs from the fountain into your veſſel, when it iſſues gently like new wine into your boſoms, when the ſtrength and power of it you feel, when you are overcome with the ſtrength of love (which is God) then feel me preſent in the fountain of love, wherein are many Manſions; you Children of the Lord feel me wrapt up with you in the pure love, which deſtroyes the love which is in enmity with God, which warreth againſt the Seed which proceedeth from the Father of Love, the God of Truth; Let nothing ſeperate you from this Love which is my life, neither words nor thoughts nor nothing elſe enter betwixt which is contrary to it, for that will ſtain the place of its abode; So dear Children who are begotten by love into the Covenant of life and love, keep daily in it, this is the portion that God hath given to his Children to continue in his love which is the life of the Seed, which is raiſed by the power of the endleſſe love of God in the Creature; I am full of the quickning Power of the Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and my Lamp is filled with pure Oyl, ſo that it gives a clear light and pleaſant ſmell, *and I ſhall enter with my beloved into Eternal peace and reſt, wherein I am ſwallowed up, with the life of it I am filled, and with it I ſhall depart with everlaſting joy in my heart, and praiſes in my mouth, ſinging Halelujah unto the Lord, who hath redeemed me by his living Power, from amongſt Kindreds Tongues and Nations; And now the day of my departure draweth near,* I have fought a good fight, I have kept the holy Faith. *I have near* finiſhed my courſe, *my travelling is near at an end, my Teſtimony is near to be finiſhed, and an Eternal Crown is laid up for me, and all whoſe feet are ſhod with Righteouſneſſe and the preparation of Peace, even ſuch whoſe names are written in the Book of Life, wherein I live and rejoyce with all the Faithful Seed for evermore.*

The 23. day of the 8th Month, was this given forth, and he ſuffered the 27th. day of the ſame Moneth at *Boſton* in *New England* 1659.

Written by a Servant of Jeſus Chriſt, William Robinſon.

This is a Copy of *Peter Pearſons* Letter wherein is a Relation of *M. S.* and *W. Rs.* ſuffering.

DEar Brethren unto whom my life is united in the inviſible unlimited power of the Lord God Almighty, I give you a relation of divers paſſages,

Jages, wherein is tidings of heavineſſe and joy; Our dear brethren the two Servants of the Lord, William Robinſon, and Marmaduke Stephenſon, have finiſhed their courſe in the pure dominion and Eternal Majeſtie of the Almighty God, and are laid down in Abrahams boſome in the Heavenly Kingdom of endleſſe felicity, where the life of all the upright is united with their life to all perpetuity; So that their memorial ſhall never rot, for their name their life is left upon heavenly record, and ſhall never be blotted out from the life of the Tribe of the Faithful. Upon the 9th. day of the 4th. moneth 1659. the 4th. day of the week had all our Engliſh Friends that were abroad in this Country a meeting upon Road Iſland, the 6th. day following of the ſame week at a Ferry ſide upon Road Iſland, did one friend whoſe name is William Leddra and I part with Chriſtopher Holder, Marmaduke Stephenſon, and William Robinſon, we being about to paſſe over the Ferry, to travel into this part of the Country called Plimmouth Colony; At the end of two dayes journey we came to a Town therein called Sandwich, and the day following had a pretty peaceable meeting, and it was with us if we did eſcape apprehending in this Colony, to have traveled into Boſtons Juriſdiction, but the ſecond and laſt meeting that we had determined to have at Sandwich, in it we were apprehended and had before the Governour and Magiſtrates, and by them committed to this Priſon, where we have remained 5. moneths and upward; And being we deny to defray the charges that they have brought themſelves into by medling with us (namely their wicked Officers fees,) and alſo refuſing to make an engagement to come into the government no more, we are by their Law to remain cloſe priſoners during the Courts pleaſure; But well content we are, rejoycing that we are worthy to ſuffer as witneſſes for the Lord againſt them, and their Law, and the thick power of darkneſſe by which they did eſtabliſh it; This knowing that for our Teſtimonies ſake bonds muſt abide us during the Lords pleaſure; The day after we were taken Priſoners, was William Robinſon, and Marmaduke Stephenſon impriſoned at Boſton, where they remained until the 7th. Moneth; in the forepart of the 7th. Moneth they were had before their Court of Aſſiſtance, and after divers paſſages in their examination, the Jury (whom they witneſſed againſt as unfit men to try their cauſe being out of the Doctrine of Chriſt) when they gave in their verdit, ſaid they had found them to be Quakers; So when they were found and judged by their ungodly Law, to be guilty of the ſentence of Baniſhment upon pain of Death, they were returned to Priſon again, and after a little time were had again before their Judgment Seat, and the ſentence of baniſhment upon pain of Death paſt upon them, againſt which their Life did ariſe in power and dominion, being the Lord had commanded them to ſtay, and William Robinſon declared unto them how it ſtood between them and God, and if they did put them to Death for tranſ-

greſſing their commandement, they would become guilty of Innocent blood, and gave them warning in the Name of the Lord to beware of ſhedding innocent blood, with more expreſſions that cut them to the quick; And although they had paſſed the ſentence of Baniſhment upon them, yet this overplus to vent their furious mindes in torturing the outward man whileſt they had it, they made a decree to have William whipt, and commanded the Conſtable to get a man that was able to do it; So a man being prepared and had before their Court, and judged a man fit for their purpoſe, they had William Robinſon into the open ſtreet, and there ſtript him and put his hands thorow the holes of the Cariage of a great Gun, where the Jaylor (a member of their Church) held them till the whipper gave him twenty ſtripes with a threefold Cord whip with knots at the ends, which ſtripes he laid upon his body without mercy or pity according to the hearts deſire of ſome of the bloodthirſty rulers, who had whip him ſevere'y; So when they had inflicted this barbarous action upon his body, then they returned him with Marmaduke Stephenſon again to Priſon, and wrote an order to the Jaylor to diſcharge the Priſon of them forthwith; The Jaylor when he had taken W. R. great Coat from him, turned them out of the Priſon, and after ſome ſtay in the Town according to their freedom, paſt abroad into the Countrey within their Juriſdiction, entering into great ſervice and ſounding thorow a dark cloudy Countrey which had not been broken thorow before, wherein was found honeſt deſires, and divers were convinced, the Power of the Lord accompanied them, and with aſtoniſhment confounded their enemies before them, great was their ſervice abroad in that Juriſdiction for 4. weeks and upwards, and having acquitted themſelves like men, upon the 13th. day of the 8th. month they returned again to Boſton with ſix friends that did accompany them, and one friend that went out of this Government and met them near Boſton, where they were all apprehended and had before the Governour and ſome of the Counſel; The ſeven friends were all committed to priſon, and M. S. and W. R. were delivered to the cuſtody of the Goalour to be kept in Chaines in a room by themſelves, the which was done, they were ſhut up in a room by themſelves, and chaines laid upon their right legs; the next week their general Court began, before which they were had and ſentenced to die, and ſo returned to priſon again; upon the 27th. day of the ſame month was the day appointed that they were to be executed, the night before they had notice given of it, then the latter part of the 27th. day, being the 5th. day of the week after their lecture ſo called, W. R. and M. S. were had forth of the Priſon into the open ſtreet, where was one James Oliver who was made Captain over a band of armed men, by information 2. hundred, which were prepared to guard them to and at the place of execution, with Drums and Colours and Halberds, Guns, Swords, Picks and half-picks, beſides many others on Horſeback, to keep off the multitude of People; So they [illegible]

two dear Lambs near the hinder part, and the chief Marſhal and the Drummer next before them, then command being given to march to the place of execution, W. R. ſpake theſe words ſaying, this is your hour and the power of darkneſſe, then the Drummer beat up his drum, and after a little ſpace ceaſed again; Then M. Sephenſon ſpake ſaying this is the day of your viſitation, wherein the Lord hath viſited you, other words paſt which were not clearly heard, by reaſon of the ſound of the Drum; So they walked along in pure retired chearfulneſſe to the place of execution, triumphing in the ſtrength of the Lamb over all the wrath of man and fury of the beaſt, in the pure retired Heavenly dominion of the inviſible God; And when they were come to the Ladders foot, they took their leave each of other and W. R. ſtept up the Ladder and ſpake to the People, ſaying this is the day of your viſitation wherein the Lord hath viſited you, this is the day the Lord is ariſen in his mighty Power to be avenged on all his adverſaries, and the rope being about his neck, as he ſpake the executioner bound his legs and hands, and his neck cloth being tyed about his face, he ſaid now ye are made manifeſt; ſo the executioner being about to turn him off the Ladder, he uttered this expreſſion, ſaying, I ſuffer for Chriſt in whom I live, and for whom I die; So he being turned off, M. S. went up and ſpake to the People, ſaying, be it known unto all this day that we ſuffer not as evil doers but for Conſcience ſake; then he being bound according to the former manner, as the Executioner was about to turn him off the Ladder, he uttered theſe words, ſaying, this day ſhall we be at reſt with the Lord; Thus the Faithful witneſſes ſealed their Teſtimony for the Lord againſt the Dragons power, and bleſſedly departed with praiſes in their mouthes, entering joyfully with their beloved into Everlaſting Reſt.

Written in *Plimmoth* Priſon in *New England*, the 6th. of the 10th. moneth, 1659. Peter Pearſon.

Mary Dyer an Inhabitant in ſome part of that Countrey, was likwiſe ſentenced to die when theſe two friends, were only for coming a ſecond time to *Boſton*, to viſit her impriſoned Brethren there, and was carried with them to the place of Execution, and after they two was executed, ſhe ſtept up the Ladder and had her Coats tied about her feet, and the Rope put about her neck, with her face covered, and as the Hangman was ready to turn her off, they cryed out ſtop, for ſhe was reprieved, and looſing her feet and bid her come down, but ſhe was not forward to come down, but ſtood ſtill ſaying, ſhe was there willing to ſuffer as her Brethren did; unleſſe they would null their wicked Law, ſhe had no freedom to accept their reprief, but they pulled her down, and a day or two after carryed her out of Towne by force; And yet the Rulers of *Boſton* had the impudence to affirm (in their Apologie ſubliſhed to vindicate their barbarous proceedings againſt the Innocent) that this *Mary Dyer* accepted her life, promiſing or conſenting that ſhe would depart their Juriſdiction in few dayes and return no more; thus do they make lies their refuge, and add iniquity to ſin.

THE END.

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